

Mobile User Objective System (MUOS)

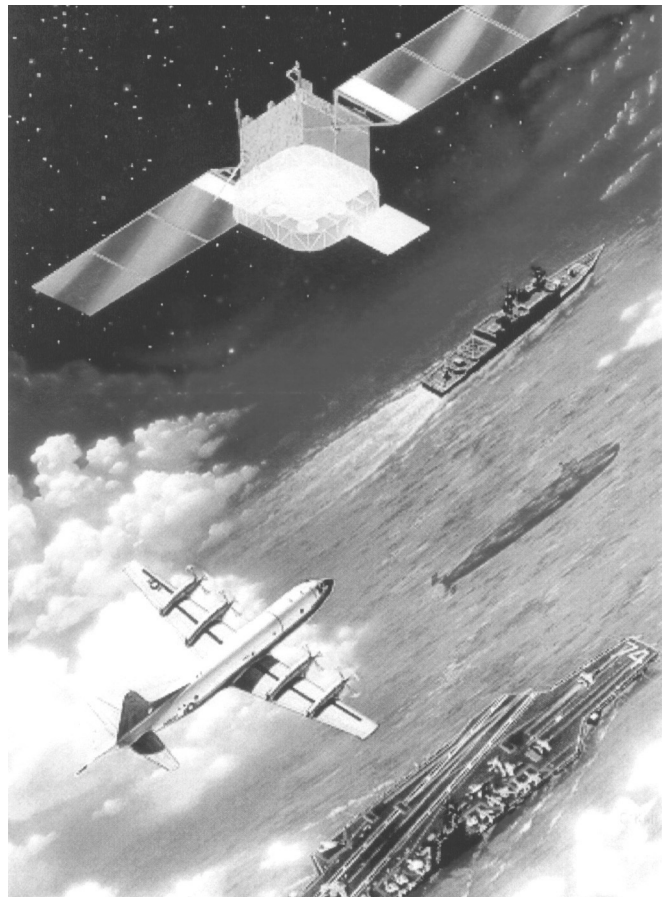
The Mobile User Objective System (MUOS) will be a satellite communications network designed to provide a worldwide, multi-service population of mobile and fixed-site terminal users with narrowband Beyond Line of Sight (BLOS) communications services. Capabilities will include a considerable increase from current narrowband Satellite Command (SATCOM) capacity, as well as significant improvement in availability for small, disadvantaged terminals. The MUOS will provide graceful transition from the current UHF Follow-On (UFO) narrowband SATCOM system.

The MUOS will consist of a network of advanced satellites and the ground equipment necessary to manage the information network, control the satellites, and interface with other elements of the Global Information Grid. Specifically, the MUOS is partitioned into the following segments: the transport segment (space and ground), the user entry segment, the network management segment, the satellite control segment, and the ground infrastructure segment.

Three acquisition phases are planned for the procurement of MUOS, each utilizing full and open competition. The first phase, a 21-month Concept Exploration phase, has been completed. Six industry teams, consisting of commercial and DoD contractors, studied and recommended system concepts and architectures to meet MUOS Operational Requirements Document needs. The second phase, Concept Advanced Development, is a planned 14-month task using two contractor teams selected to conduct system risk reduction and architecture refinement. The third phase is the System Development and Demonstration with transition into the Production and Deployment phase planned for one contractor team, with system Initial Operational Capability achieved in 2008.

TEST & EVALUATION ACTIVITY

- Evaluation Strategy has been written by a Combined Test Force (CTF) and is in the signature coordination process; DOT&E has reviewed the draft Evaluation Strategy and finds it adequate.
- The CTF will conduct government insight of the commercial developmental testing following commercial practices, and will conduct combined Developmental Test/Operational Test as appropriate.
- Dedicated operational test and evaluation will take place after the launch of the first satellite in FY08.



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